

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the comments in the Office Action which has been carefully considered. It is respectfully submitted that all issues raised are traversed, being hereinafter addressed with reference to the relevant headings appearing in the Detailed Action section of the Office Action.

The Applicant has amended the claim set. The Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the claim set are fully supported by the originally filed specification.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 9 and 10 under 35 USC § 112 second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctively claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant has amended claims 9 and 10 such that the claims refer to claim 1.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 to 5, 10 and 11 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Silverbrook *et al.* (US 6,644,781) in view of Matsumoto *et al.* (US 6,467,870).

The Applicant respectfully submits that the Applicant believes that Silverbrook and Matsumoto can not be combined, and furthermore, that the combination does not describe the features of claim 1 and that the claims are patentable over the cited references.

In any event, in order to expedite allowance of the present application, the Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the features of the allowed claim 6. Accordingly, claims 5 and 6 have been cancelled from the application.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Applicant requests a Notice of Allowance of all the claims presently under examination.

Very respectfully,

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